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ABSTRACT

This book offers an overview of the Manhattan New School, which opened in fall 1991. Eight chapters describe the school's progression and innovations, and each chapter identifies top priorities of the school community. The book outlines practices, such as creating a nurturing social tone, that have enabled staff and family members to realize their educational goals. Chapter 1 offers an overview of the school and guidelines for school administration. Chapter 2 reconsiders the role of the principal and the inevitable obstacles each principal faces. Chapter 3 examines what teachers need to be successful, whereas chapter 4 takes an in-depth look at the social tone of the school, which is characterized by a spirit of generosity and a curriculum of caring. Chapter 5 discusses ways to involve parents. Chapter 6 details the various aspects of curriculum and assessment, addressing such issues as standards, the principal's role in curriculum, and the importance of adequate time. Strategies for turning schools into centers for professional study are offered in chapter 7, which includes tips on professional development and meeting the needs of first-year teachers. The last chapter emphasizes the need to celebrate successes. Thirty appendices supply additional information and resources. (RJM)

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